



Education Abroad in NURSING

Benefits of Global Experience for Nursing Students

The UVA School of Nursing views global experience as an integral component to its students' education. Undergraduate nursing students must be prepared to embrace both the challenges and the exciting opportunities of our global community and to be enriched by programs that involve them in interactions with the people, cultures, and health care of our neighbors worldwide.

Once nursing students enter the workforce, they are entrusted with the care of their patients. These patients will represent human diversity in its rich variations, including race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation and gender identity, socioeconomic status, language, spirituality, and physical ability. Gaining global experience will help students learn skills such as cross-cultural communication, respectful community engagement, critical thinking, empathy, and cultural humility.

Steps to go abroad

- Get a passport
- Complete the online Education Abroad Workshop
- Meet with an ISO education abroad advisor and explore opportunities
- Talk with your department about timing and course requirements
- Learn about funding resources (financial aid, scholarships)
- Research programs and apply online
- Participate in cross-cultural seminars (CORE)

For more information on program options, make an appt. online with an ISO Education Abroad Advisor according to the country or region of your interest.

School contact for study abroad information:

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Program Coordinator
Global Initiatives Office
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434-924-1689

For application processes and program advising:

International Studies Office
educationabroad.virginia.edu
studyabroad@virginia.edu

Interested in other disciplines?
Explore additional major advising sheets online at
educationabroad.virginia.edu/your-major

Student Testimonial

"My classmates and I were able to implement a community action plan at Clinica Esperanza to prevent the transmission of chikungunya (a virus spread by mosquitos). Cases are relatively new to the island, with the first patient seen at Clinica Esperanza in December 2014. Being in Roatán boosted my confidence as a future nurse by pushing me outside of my comfort zone. Not having technology to rely on not only enhanced my hands-on skills, but it also emphasized the importance of developing and using my nursing instincts. I met professionals from around the world with many different backgrounds; each and every one taught me something new. There was a strong sense of camaraderie among the clinic volunteers and I have seen what true teamwork can accomplish." - Crystal Moses, CNL '16 student, at Clinica Esperanza in Roatán, Honduras,



Clinica Esperanza,
Roatán, Honduras

Academic and Timing Considerations

Because of the SON curriculum sequencing, students can only study abroad for a semester during the fall of their fourth year on a UVA –SON exchange program (see below). These exchanges focus on the clinical portion of your degree program. **Before** participating in an exchange for a semester, the student will have completed all 2nd year courses and the following 3rd year courses:

- NUCO 3110 Adult-Gero Nursing
- NUCO 3310 Pediatric Nursing
- NUCO 3610 Maternal Child Nursing
- NUIP 3420 Pathophysiology/Clinical Management II
- NUIP 3430 Pharmacology/Clinical Management II
- NUIP 3320 and 3330 REAL II (Health Policy, Regulation, Delegation and Informatics) and REAL III (Evidence Based Practice and Research Utilization)
- NUIP 4210 Public and Population Health OR NUCO 4310 Mental Health*

*Students participating in the New Zealand exchange will have completed NUCO 4210 in the spring and will receive credit for NUCO 4310 in the fall; students participating in the Australia exchange will have completed NUCO 4310 in the spring and will receive credit for NUCO 4210 in the fall.

SON students do have the option to participate in a J-term or summer study abroad program for elective credit and language learning (these programs do not interfere with SON curriculum sequencing and it is not necessary to complete courses listed above prior to departure; these programs count as elective credit only and **do not** give credit for nursing major). Suggestions are on the following page. Volunteer opportunities and other non-credit options are also available. In particular, programs that combine education, research, practice, and service further enhance a student's international experience as related to nursing.

Global Opportunities in Nursing

Oceania

- **Australia:** UVA Exchange: University of Queensland
- **New Zealand:** UVA Exchange: University of Auckland



Julia Smith,
University of
Auckland, fall
2011

Caribbean, Central & South America

- **Chile:** IES: Santiago, Chile: Health Studies
- **Nicaragua:** UVA Nursing in Nicaragua: Community Health Nursing
- **Nicaragua:** UVA Nursing in Nicaragua: Trends and Issues in Clinical Nursing Practice
- **Nicaragua:** January Term: UVA in Nicaragua
- **St. Kitts and Nevis:** January Term: UVA in St. Kitts and Nevis



Marissa Sylvia,
BSN student, St.
Kitts and Nevis, J-
term 2015

Europe

- **Cyprus:** Health Sciences, Global Learning Semesters
- **Denmark:** Danish Institute for Study Abroad (DIS): Health Delivery and Prioritization in Northern Europe
- **Spain:** UVA in Valencia, Spain

Non-credit Bearing Options

- **UVA Center for Global Health**
- **South Africa—Water and Health in Limpopo Province**
- **Nursing Students Without Borders**



Lillian Ware, Jennifer Steuve, and Mary Kay O'Brien, CNL students, University of Venda South Africa, summer 2016